

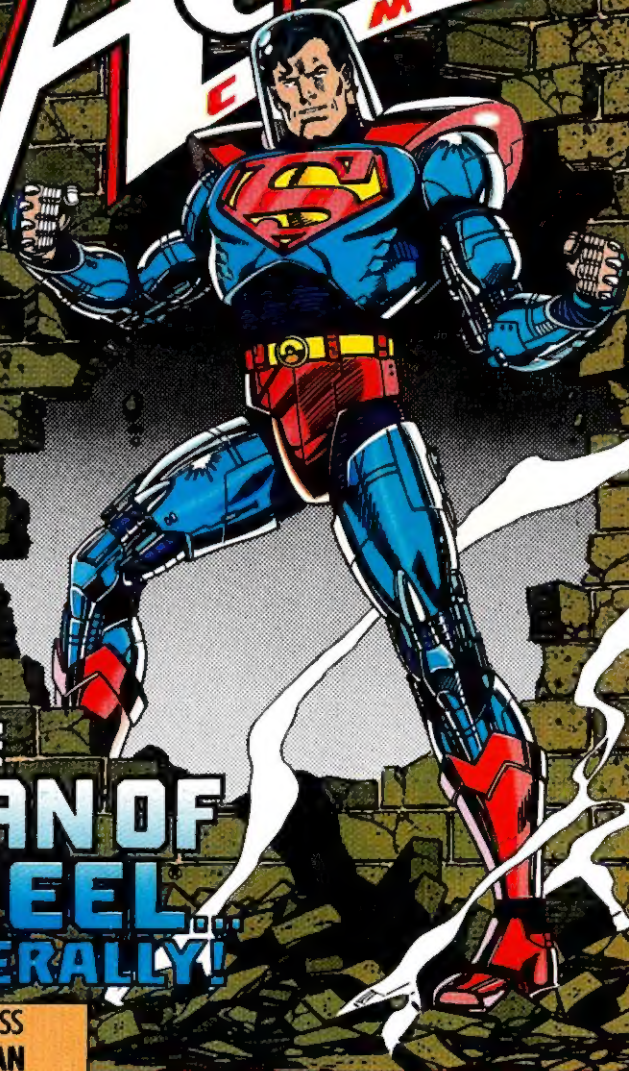


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659 US 75¢
NOV 90 CAN 95¢
UK 80p



SUPERMAN IN ACTION



THE
MAN OF
STEEL
LITERALLY!

DON'T MISS
SUPERMAN
NO. 50
IN 2 WEEKS!

KRISIS OF THE KRIMSON KRYPTONITE PART THREE

BREAKOUT!

SUPERMAN

Created by
JERRY SEIBER &
JOE SHELTER

NO... NO, THIS
IS IMPOSSIBLE!
THIS CAN'T BE
HAPPENING--

-- WE'RE 45
STORIES UP! YOU
CAN'T FLY ANY
MORE... YOU HAVE
NO POWERS AT
ALL--

... I KNOW! MY
RED KRYPTONITE
TOOK THEM ALL
AWAY! *

YOU'RE
MISTAKEN,
LUTHOR. I HAVE
ALL THE POWER
I NEED TO DEAL
WITH YOU!

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#1 IN SUPERMAN #49, STILL ON SALE!

***!!! THE EFFECT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE PERMANENT!

PERMANENT!



YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER, LUTHOR...



... KRYPTONITE IS GREEN, NOT RED!



YOU ... YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS INTRUSION!

INTRUSION? YOU'RE GETTING PARANOID, SIR--

-- I CAME HERE MERELY TO SAVE YOU FROM THIS DANGEROUS MINERAL. JUDGING BY THE GLOW, IT MUST BE RADIOACTIVE...

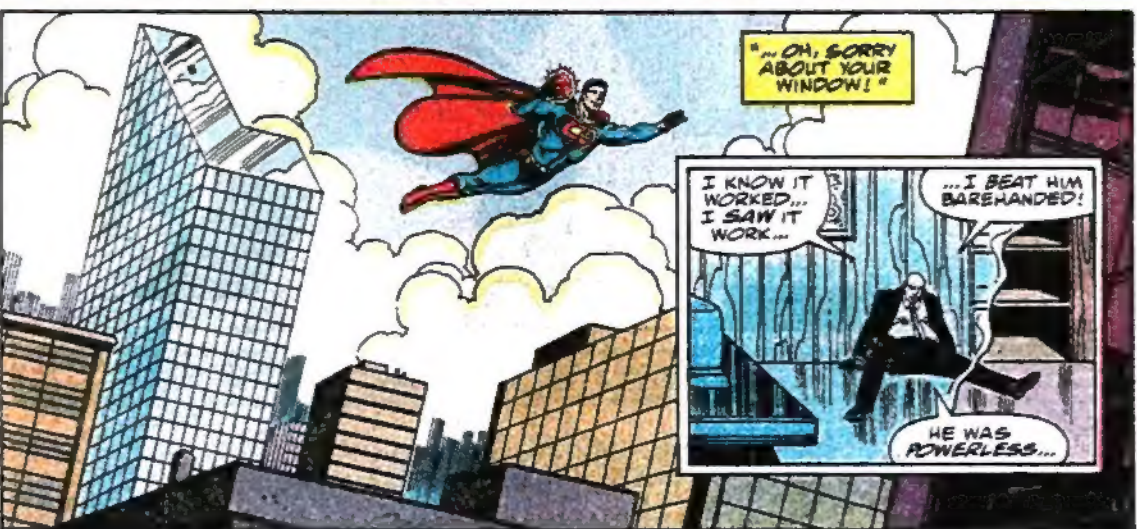


"... OH, SORRY ABOUT YOUR WINDOW!"

I KNOW IT WORKED... I SAW IT WORK...

... I BEAT HIM BAREHANDED!

HE WAS POWERLESS...



"...WHAT WENT
WRONG ?!?"

COMING
THROUGH!

KER ROOM

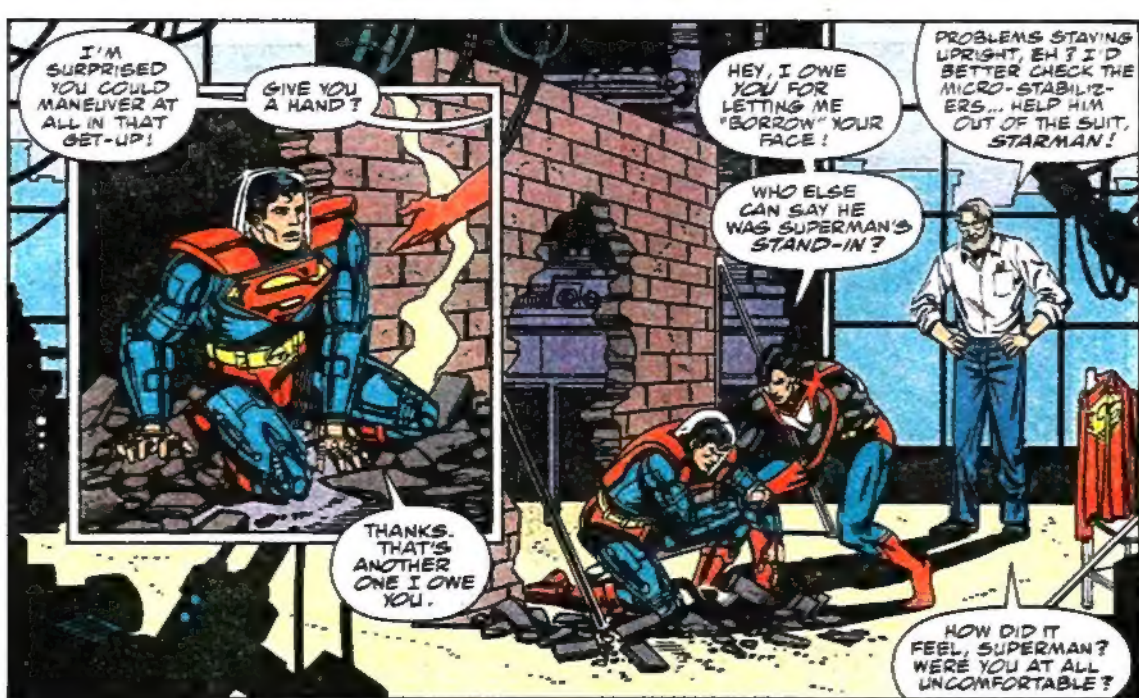
HAMMM...
THAT
WASN'T
HALF-
BAD!

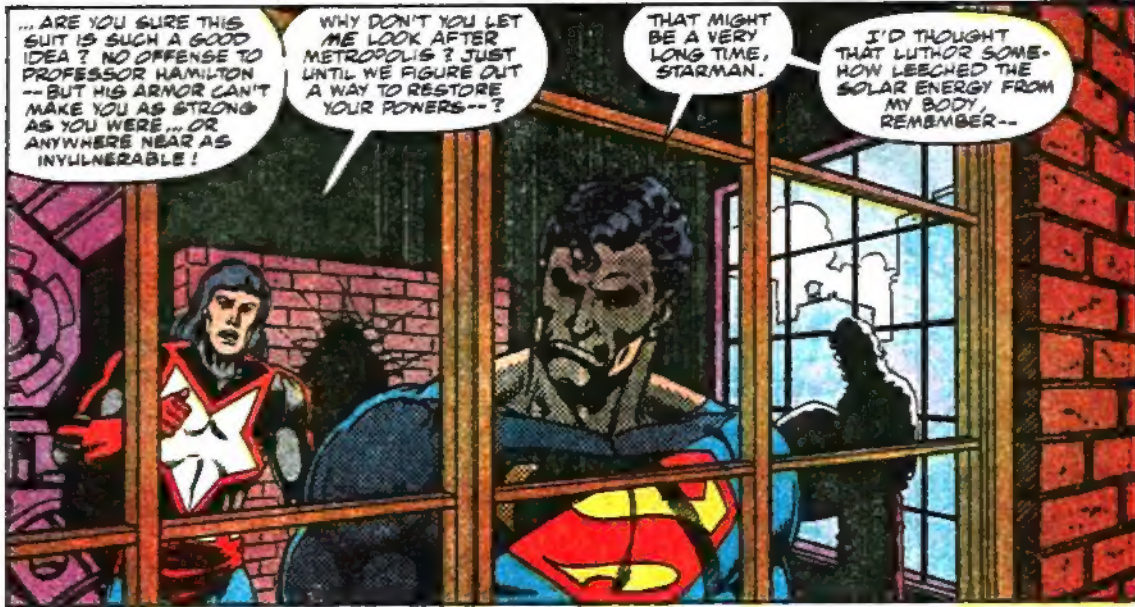
I COULD
GET USED
TO THIS.

WHOOPE!

WUK

IF I CAN
LEARN TO
MAINTAIN MY
BALANCE.



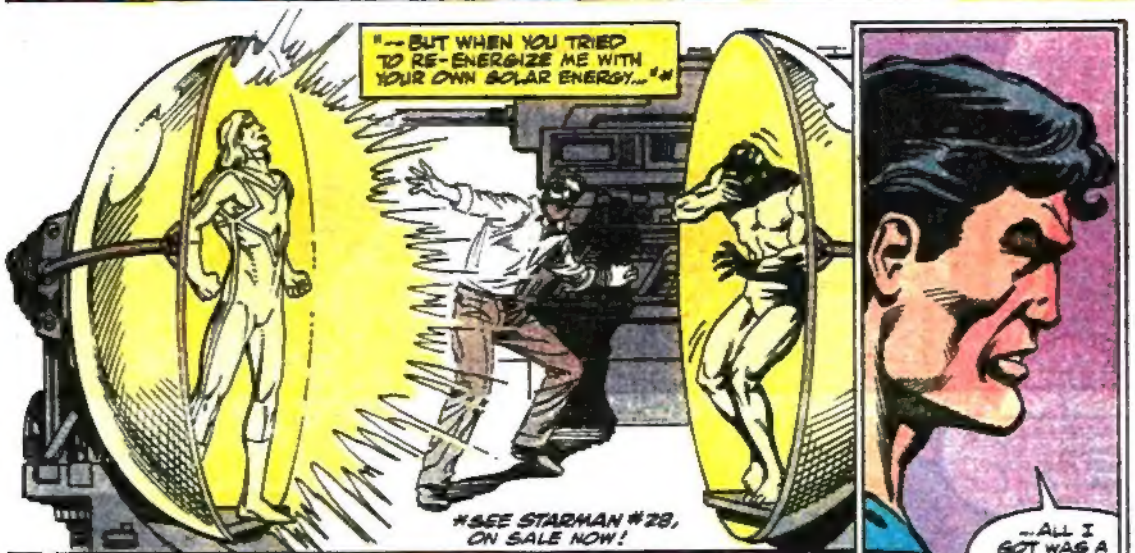


...ARE YOU SURE THIS SUIT IS SUCH A GOOD IDEA? NO OFFENSE TO PROFESSOR HAMILTON -- BUT HIS ARMOR CAN'T MAKE YOU AS STRONG AS YOU WERE... OR ANYWHERE NEAR AS INVULNERABLE!

WHY DON'T YOU LET ME LOOK AFTER METROPOLIS? JUST UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT A WAY TO RESTORE YOUR POWERS--?

THAT MIGHT BE A VERY LONG TIME, STARMAN.

I'D THOUGHT THAT LUTHOR SOMEHOW LEECHED THE SOLAR ENERGY FROM MY BODY, REMEMBER--



...BUT WHEN YOU TRIED TO RE-ENERGIZE ME WITH YOUR OWN SOLAR ENERGY...

*SEE STARMAN #28, ON SALE NOW!



...ALL I GOT WAS A MILD CASE OF SUNBURN.



WELL, AT LEAST MY SUPER-MAN IMPERSONATION TRICKED THIS ROCK AWAY FROM LUTHOR. WITH ALL THE FAITH HE PUT IN IT, IT MUST HOLD SOME KEY.

I WOULD AGREE, BUT I'VE YET TO FIND ANYTHING HERE THAT COULD HAVE CAUSED OUR FRIEND'S POWER LOSS.

THIS IS NOT LIKE ANY KRYPTONITE I'VE ANALYZED BEFORE -- IT'S NOT EVEN RADIOACTIVE! JUST MILDLY PHOSPHORESCENT.

STILL, THERE HAS TO BE AN ANSWER! I'LL KEEP AT IT UNTIL I FIND ONE!



"... IT'S JUST THAT... IF THE WORD GOT OUT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM... DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY ENEMIES WOULD GO GUNNING FOR HIM?"



"I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT I HATE TO THINK OF SUPERMAN HAVING TO SKULK AROUND BUILDINGS THAT HE SHOULD BE FLYING OVER."

FUNNY... UNTIL THIS HAPPENED, I'D NEVER GIVEN LEX LUTHOR MUCH THOUGHT... TO ME, HE WAS JUST ANOTHER CORPORATE WHEELER-DEALER.



THE ONLY TIMES I REMEMBER READING ABOUT HIM WERE IN CONNECTION WITH SOME COMPANY HE'D BOUGHT OUT OR SOME CHARITY HE WAS FUNDING.

"I WISH THERE WAS SOME WAY TO REVEAL WHAT A MONSTER HE REALLY IS... TO TELL METROPOLIS WHAT HE'S DONE TO THEIR GREATEST CHAMPION."

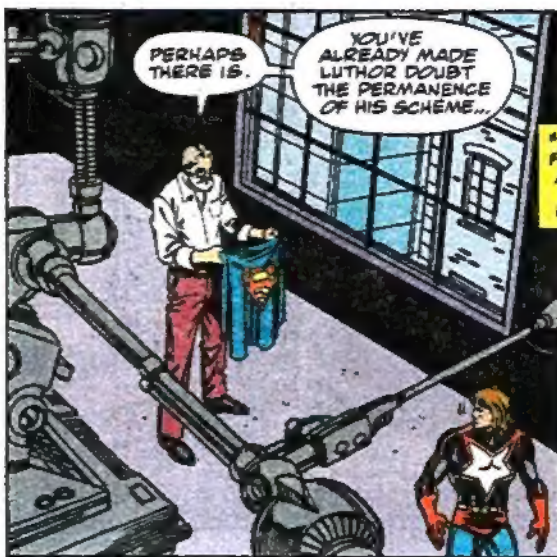


IT'S JUST NOT RIGHT! LUTHOR SITS UP THERE IN HIS GLASS TOWER, WITH ALL THE POWER THAT MONEY CAN BUY...



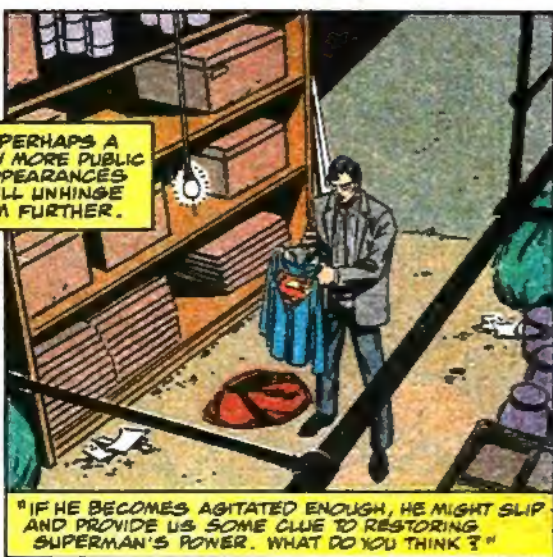
"... WHILE SUPERMAN IS FORCED TO HIDE IN THE SHADOWS... AS VULNERABLE AS ANY NORMAL MAN.

"I WISH THERE WERE SOMETHING MORE I COULD DO."



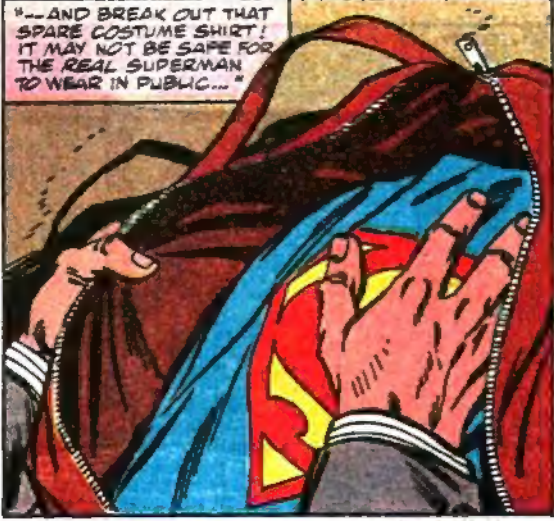
PERHAPS THERE IS.

YOU'VE ALREADY MADE LUTHOR DOUBT THE PERMANENCE OF HIS SCHEME...



"... PERHAPS A FEW MORE PUBLIC APPEARANCES WILL UNHINGE HIM FURTHER.

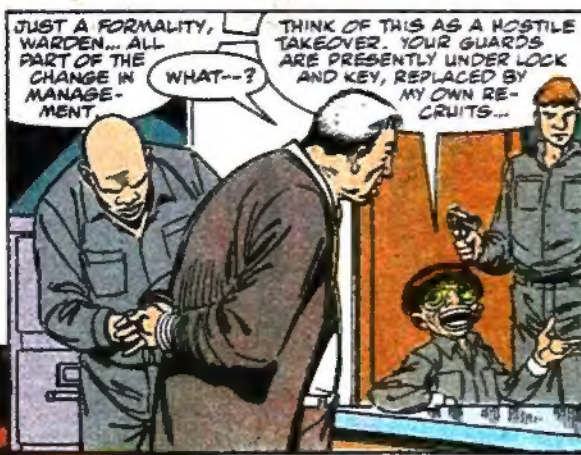
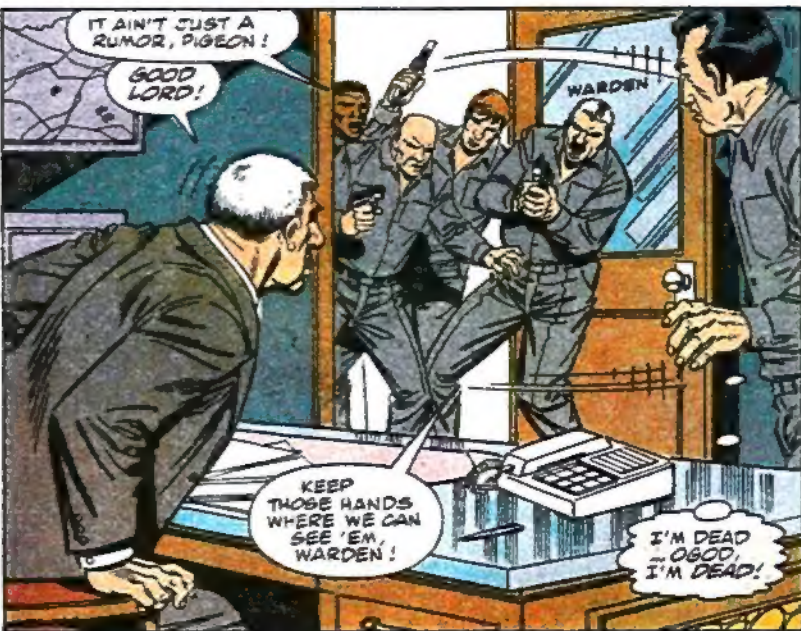
"IF HE BECOMES AGITATED ENOUGH, HE MIGHT SLIP AND PROVIDE US SOME CLUE TO RESTORING SUPERMAN'S POWER. WHAT DO YOU THINK?"



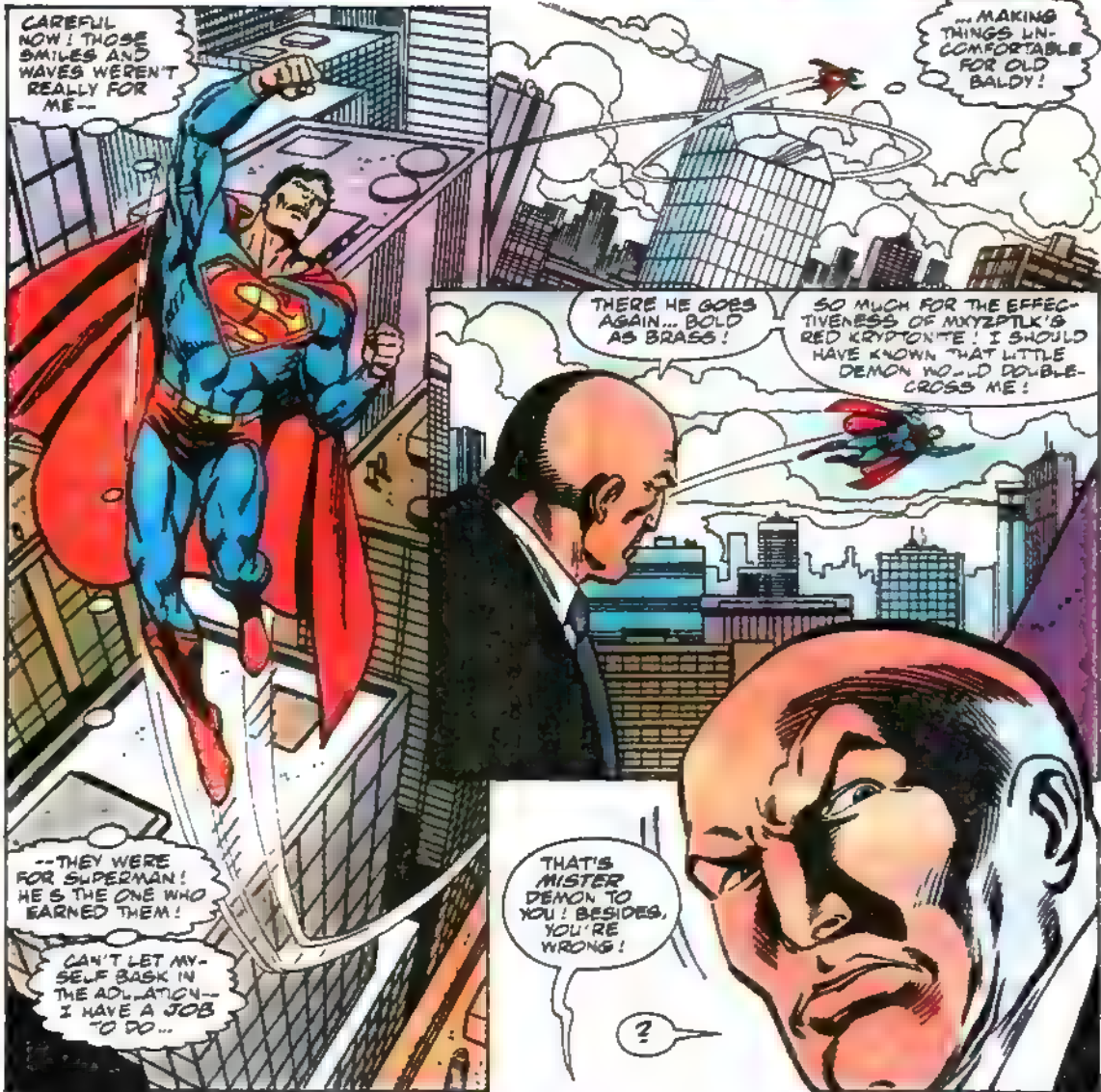
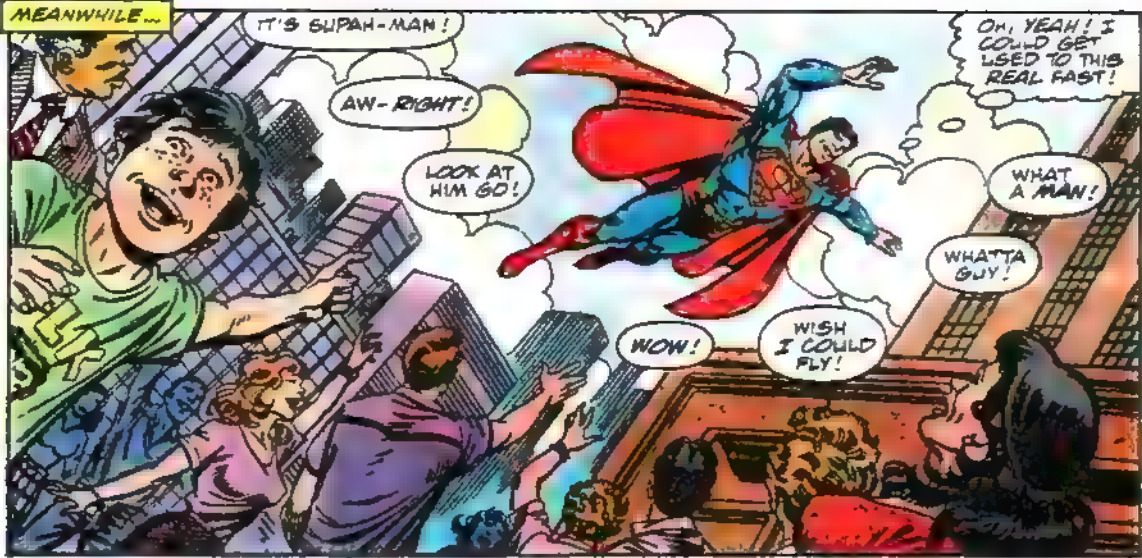
STRYKER'S ISLAND, THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM SECURITY INTERNMENT CENTER...

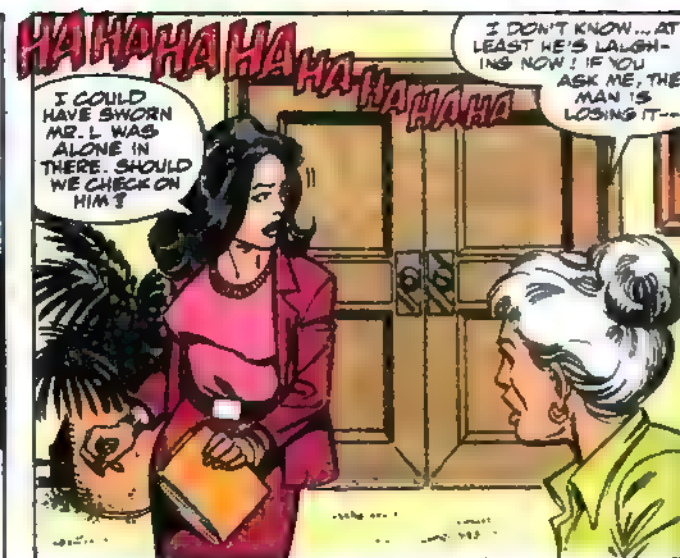
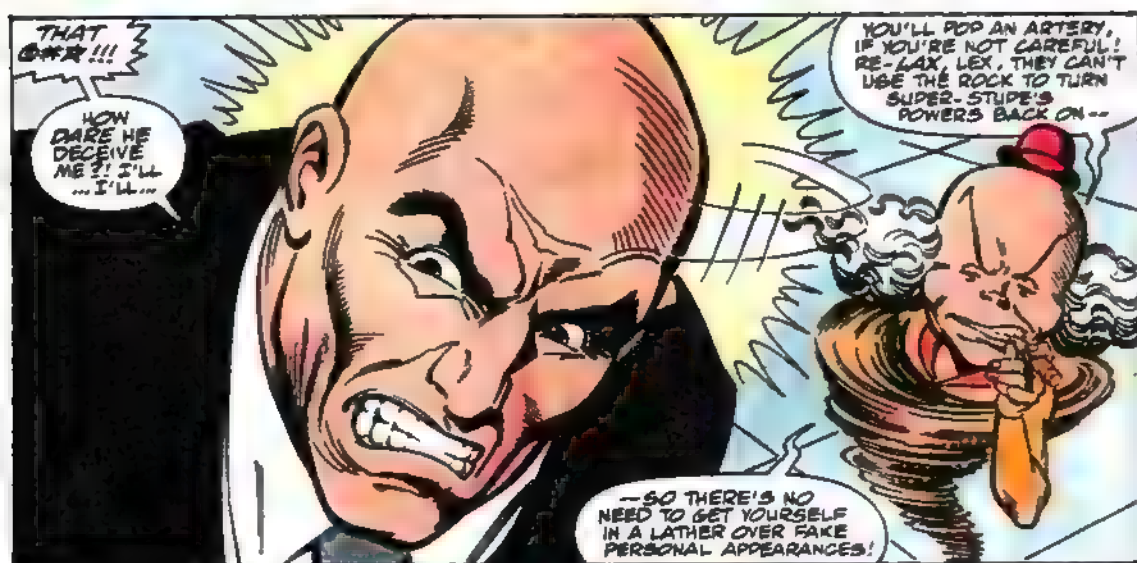
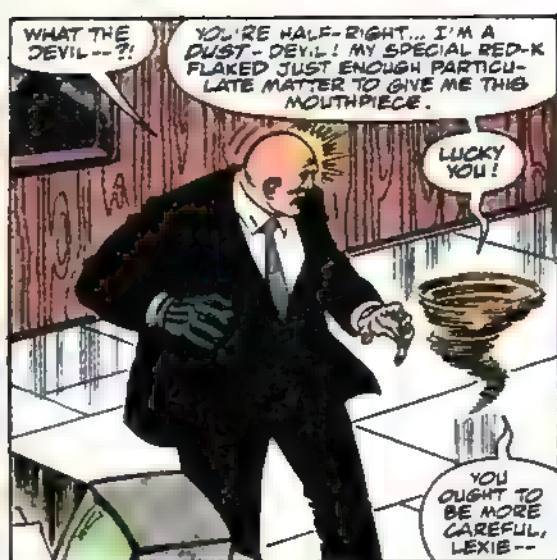
WHAT'S THIS YOU WANTED TO TELL ME, JENKINS?

I'M NOT SURE WHERE TO START, WARDEN. ALL WEEK LONG, I BEEN HEARIN' RUMORS 'BOUT A BREAK--!



MEANWHILE...





"... HE JUST HASN'T
SEEN HIMSELF LATELY!"

SUPERMAN!

SUPERMAN!!
OVER HERE!

ISN'T
THAT--?

YEAH, LOIS LANE!
I'VE SEEN HER
PICTURE IN THE
PAPERS...

... IN CONNECTION WITH
STORIES ABOUT SUPER-
MAN! WILL I PASS HER
INSPECTION? WHAT
DO I SAY TO HER?

UH,
HELLO! HOW
ARE THINGS
WITH YOU?

THEY'VE
BEEN
BETTER...

... HASN'T
CLARK TOLD
YOU ABOUT
MY MOTHER'S
CONDITION?

CLARK? UH
NO, I... HAVEN'T
SEEN CLARK IN
A WHILE.

I'M SORRY
TO HEAR
ABOUT
THIS...

WELL, MOM'S
TOUGH... WE
JUST HAVE TO
HAVE FAITH.

BUT I
DIDN'T FLAG
YOU DOWN
TO DISCUSS
PERSONAL
MATTERS.

AN ALERT
JUST CAME
OVER THE
POLICE SCANNER--
THERE'S SOME SORT
OF EMERGENCY ON THE
WEST RIVER! THE POLICE
WANT YOU DOWN AT PER 10!

PIER 10...
GOT IT!

I'M ON MY
WAY. THANKS
FOR YOUR HELP,
MS. LANE!

"MS. LANE" 'TIT

"SINCE WHEN HAS HE BECOME SO FORMAL?"

SUPERMAN!

WHAT?!?

NOW--?!

OH...

...OF COURSE, IT'S STARMAN... PROBABLY TRYING TO REASSURE THE CITY THAT SUPERMAN IS ON THE JOB

A FEW DAYS AGO, THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN ME FLYING BY.

I NEVER DREAMED THAT I'D FEEL SO CRIPPLED, STUCK HERE ON THE GROUND...

...ABLE TO DO LITTLE MORE THAN WATCH.

I MUST SPEAK WITH STARMAN... I KNOW HE MEANS WELL, BUT IT'S NOT RIGHT TO GIVE PEOPLE FALSE HOPES.

HIYA, MR. KENT! DON'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE THIS MORNIN'.

COME ON, EDDIE-- I'M NOT GETTING THAT LAX REPUTATION AS A FREELANCER, AM I?

YOU, MR. KENT? NO WAY!

I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D BE OUT COVERIN' THIS PRISON MESS!

PRISON MESS?

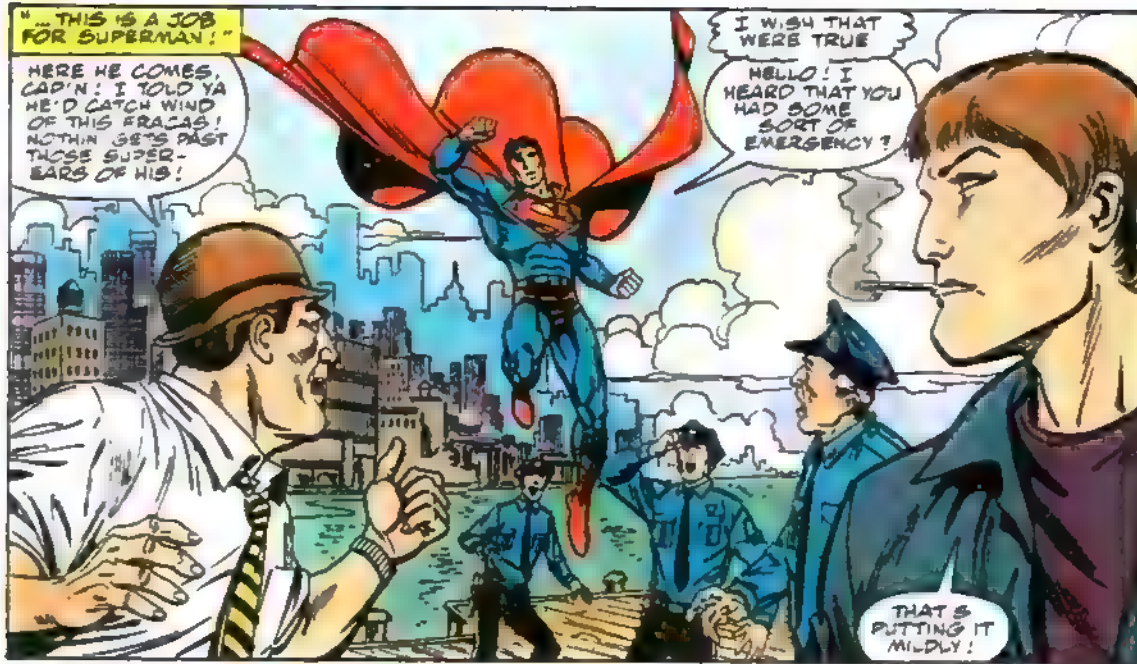
AIN'TCHA HEARD--?

...CONFIRMATION THAT CONVICTED SCIENTIST THADDEUS KILLGRAVE HAS SEIZED CONTROL OF THE STRIKER'S ISLAND FACILITY!

KILLGRAVE, WHOSE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN AN EXTORTION SCHEME ONCE THREW THE CITY INTO A PANIC...

THIS WOULD HAVE TO HAPPEN NOW, OF ALL TIMES!

KILLGRAVE IS CAPABLE OF JUST ABOUT ANYTHING-- THE POLICE WON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST HIM! NO MATTER WHAT SHAPE I'M IN...



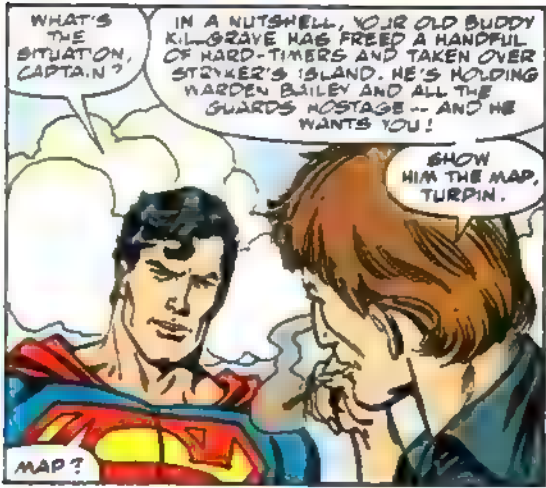
"...THIS IS A JOB FOR SUPERMAN!"

HERE HE COMES, CAP'N! I TOLD YA HE'D CATCH WIND OF THIS FRACAS! NOTHIN GETS PAST THOSE SUPER-EARS OF HIS!

I WISH THAT WERE TRUE

HELLO! I HEARD THAT YOU HAD SOME SORT OF EMERGENCY?

THAT'S PUTTING IT MILDLY!

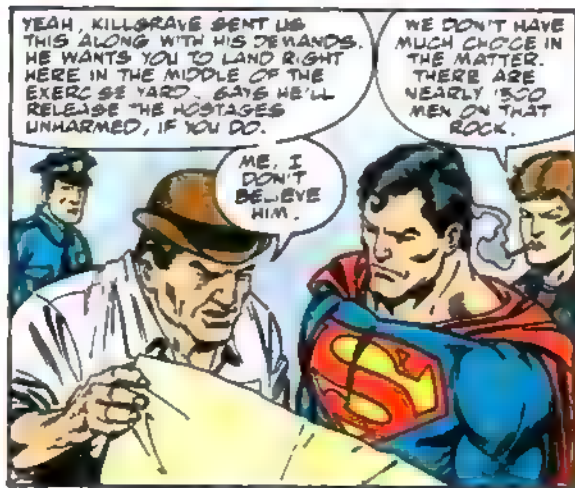


WHAT'S THE SITUATION, CAPTAIN?

IN A NUTSHELL, YOUR OLD BUDDY KILLGRAVE HAS FREED A HANDFUL OF HARD-TIMBERS AND TAKEN OVER STRIKER'S ISLAND. HE'S HOLDING WARDEN BAILEY AND ALL THE GUARDS HOSTAGE -- AND HE WANTS YOU!

SHOW HIM THE MAP, TURPIN.

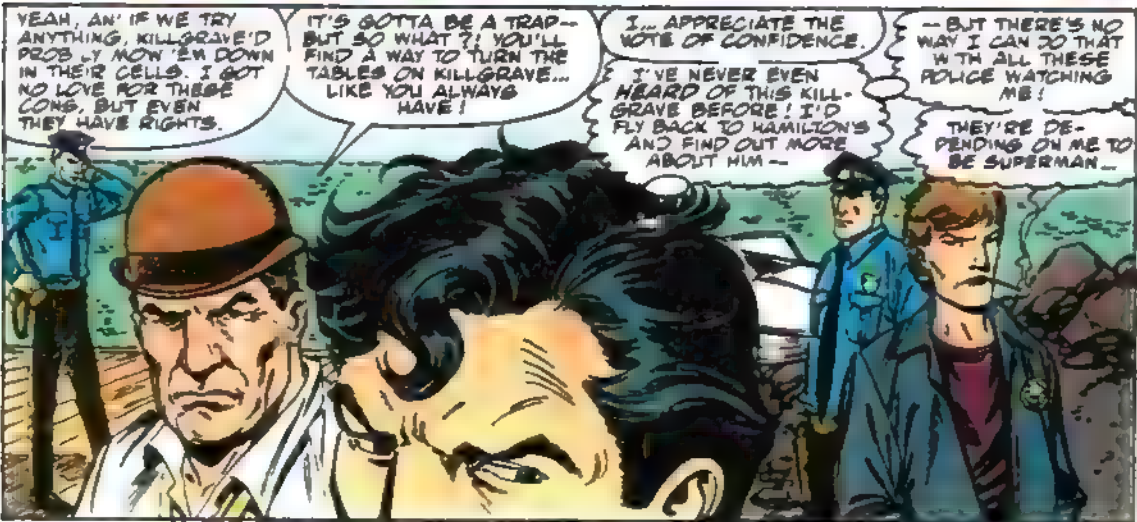
MAP?



YEAH, KILLGRAVE SENT US THIS ALONG WITH HIS DEMANDS. HE WANTS YOU TO LAND RIGHT HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE EXERCISE YARD. SAYS HE'LL RELEASE THE HOSTAGES UNHARMED, IF YOU DO.

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE IN THE MATTER. THERE ARE NEARLY 1500 MEN ON THAT ROCK.

ME, I DON'T BELIEVE HIM.



YEAH, AN' IF WE TRY ANYTHING, KILLGRAVE'D PROB'LY MOW 'EM DOWN IN THEIR CELLS. I GOT NO LOVE FOR THESE CONGS, BUT EVEN THEY HAVE RIGHTS.

IT'S GOTTA BE A TRAP-- BUT SO WHAT? YOU'LL FIND A WAY TO TURN THE TABLES ON KILLGRAVE... LIKE YOU ALWAYS HAVE!

I... APPRECIATE THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.

I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THIS KILLGRAVE BEFORE! I'D FLY BACK TO HAMILTON'S AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HIM --

-- BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO THAT WITH ALL THESE POLICE WATCHING ME!

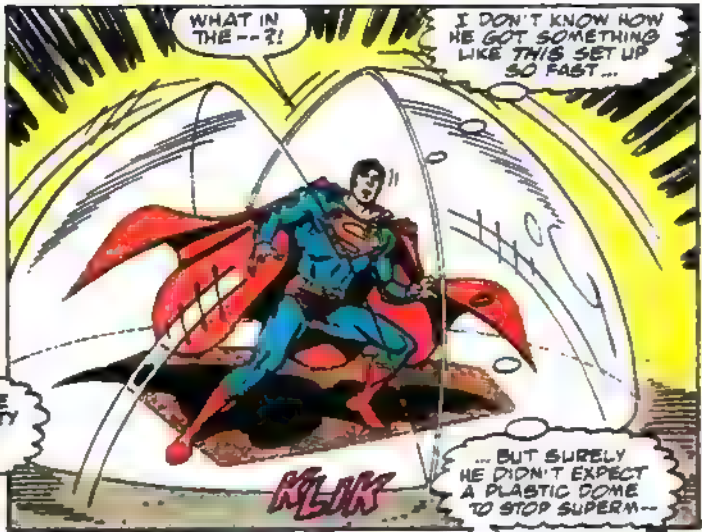
THEY'RE DE-PENDING ON ME TO BE SUPERMAN --



...I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO THE BEST I CAN!

THAT PENTAGON MUST BE MY TARGET. IT'S THE SAME SHAPE AS SUPER-MAN'S CHEST EMBLEM...

...KILLGRAVE HAS A NASTY SENSE OF HUMOR.



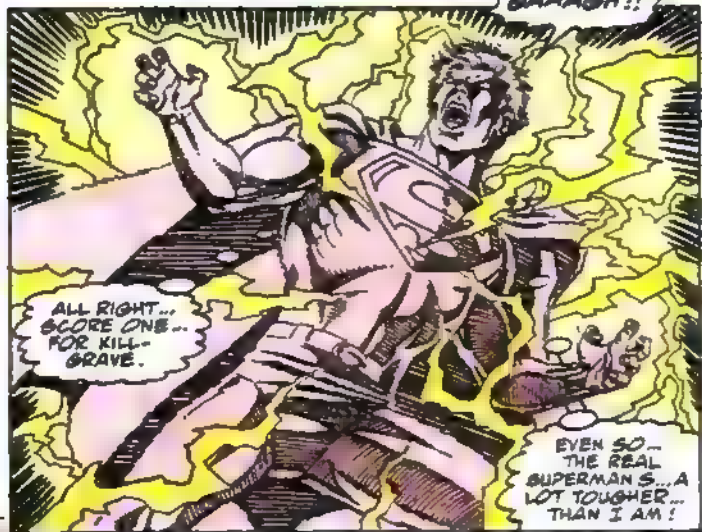
WHAT IN THE--?!

I DON'T KNOW HOW HE GOT SOMETHING LIKE THIS SET UP SO FAST...

...BUT SURELY HE DIDN'T EXPECT A PLASTIC DOME TO STOP SUPERMAN--

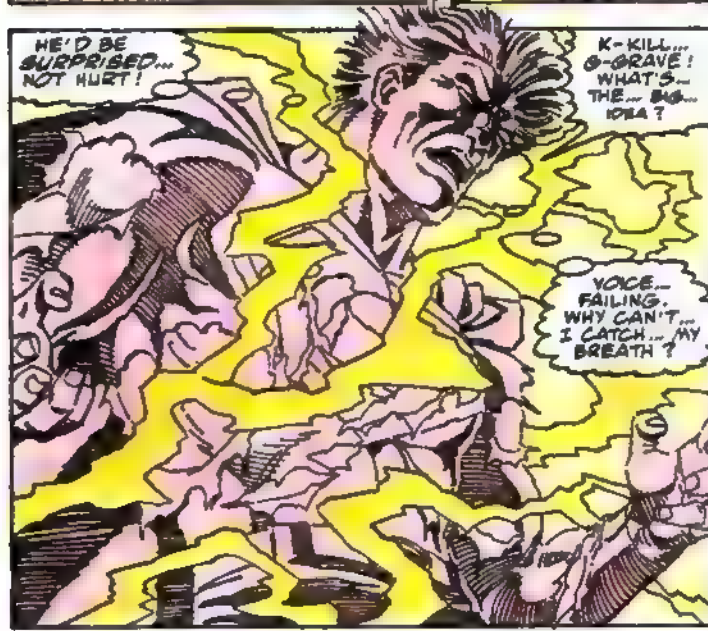
KLUK

GAAAGH!!



ALL RIGHT... SCORE ONE... FOR KILLGRAVE.

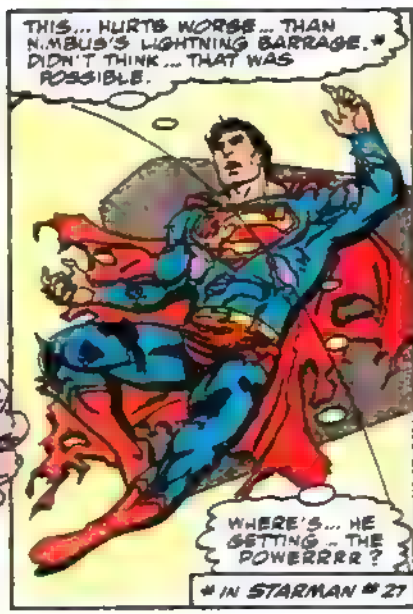
EVEN SO... THE REAL SUPERMAN'S... A LOT TOUGHER... THAN I AM!



HE'D BE SURPRISED... NOT HURT!

K-KILL... G-GRAVE! WHAT'S THE-- BIG IDEA?

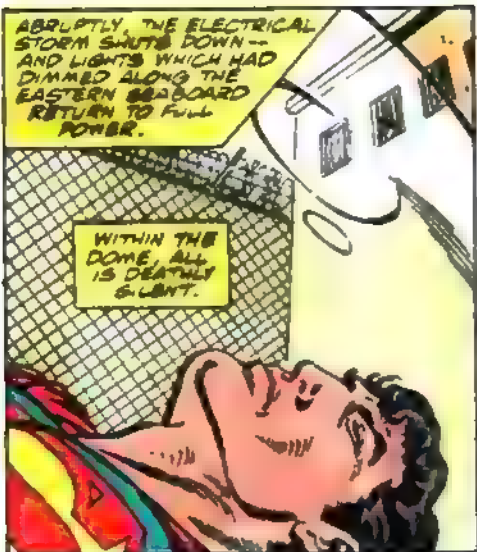
VOICE... FAILING. WHY CAN'T I CATCH... MY BREATH?



THIS... HURTS WORSE... THAN NIMBUS'S LIGHTNING BARRAGE. * DIDN'T THINK... THAT WAS POSSIBLE.

WHERE'S... HE GETTING... THE POWERRR?

IN STARMAN # 27



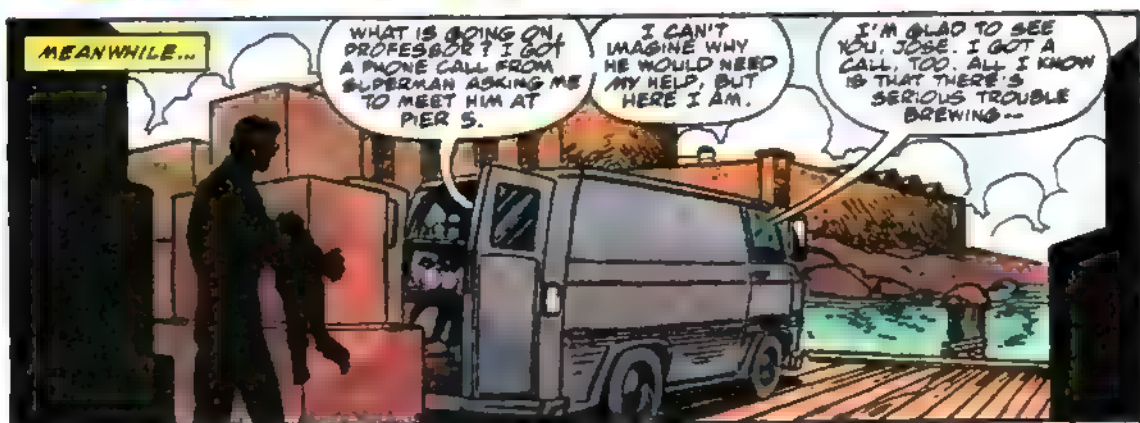
ABRUPTLY, THE ELECTRICAL STORM SHUTS DOWN-- AND LIGHTS WHICH HAD DIMMED ALONG THE EASTERN SEABOARD RETURN TO FULL POWER.

WITHIN THE DOME, ALL IS DEADLY SILENT.



HAN! THE BIGGER THEY ARE, THE HARDER THEY FALL!

REST IN PEACE, SUPERMAN!



MEANWHILE...

WHAT IS GOING ON, PROFESSOR? I GOT A PHONE CALL FROM SUPERMAN ASKING ME TO MEET HIM AT PIER 5.

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY HE WOULD NEED MY HELP, BUT HERE I AM.

I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU, JOSE. I GOT A CALL, TOO. ALL I KNOW IS THAT THERE'S SERIOUS TROUBLE BREWING--



--AND WE'RE GOING TO NEED A GUNBUSTER! SUPERMAN'S LOST HIS POWERS AND--!

WHAT?! LOST HIS POWERS? NOW?

DON'T KNOW, BUT LUTHOR'S BEHIND IT.

LUTHOR? THAT MISERABLE--!
ALL OF HIS POWERS? I DON'T BELIEVE IT!



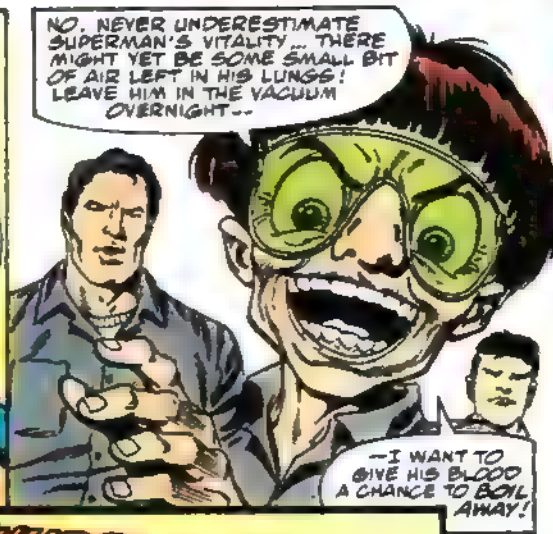
BELIEVE IT, DELGADO. IT'S THE TRUTH.

IS THE SUIT READY, PROFESSOR?

I BELIEVE SO.

GOOD. LET'S GET CRACKING.

WHRRRRRRRRRRRR



WELL, SOMETHIN'
SLAMMED INTO THE
STORAGE BUILDIN'--
AN' THAT WASN'T NO
BIRD THAT JUST
FLEW BY!

BUH-LAMM!

THAT WAS
NO BOMB!
IT ... IT ...

IT'S OVER,
KILLGRAVE!

SHOOT
YOU IDOTS!

BOOM!
DAM!

PTOW!

POOM!

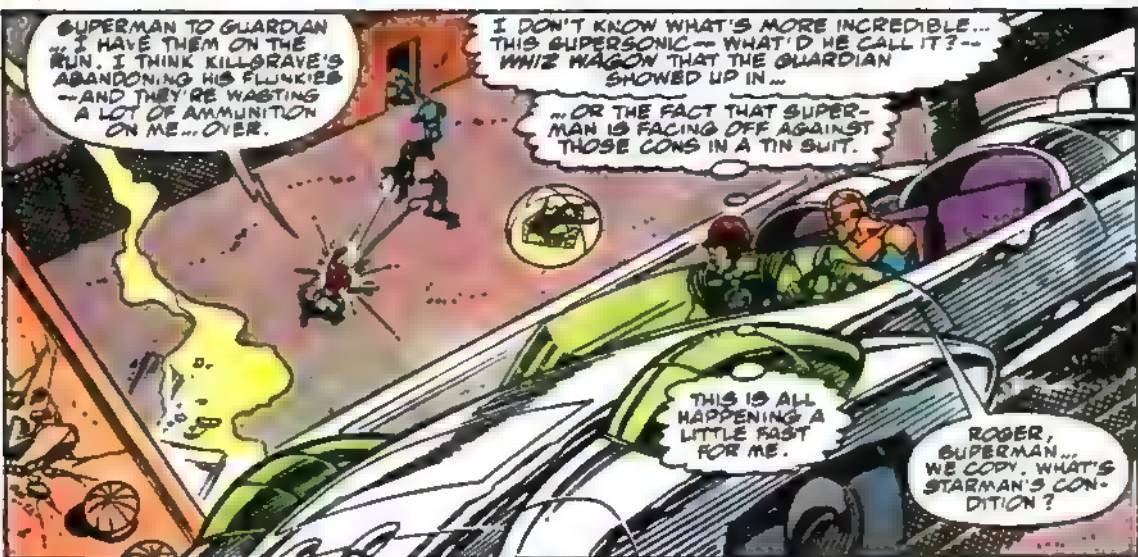
KEEP
FIRING!
DON'T LET
UP!

BUT IT AIN'T
DOIN' ANY
GOOD, BOSS!

S-SUPERMAN?!?

NO IT MUST
BE SOME KIND
OF ROBOT!
SOME TRICK!

BOSS?
HEY!



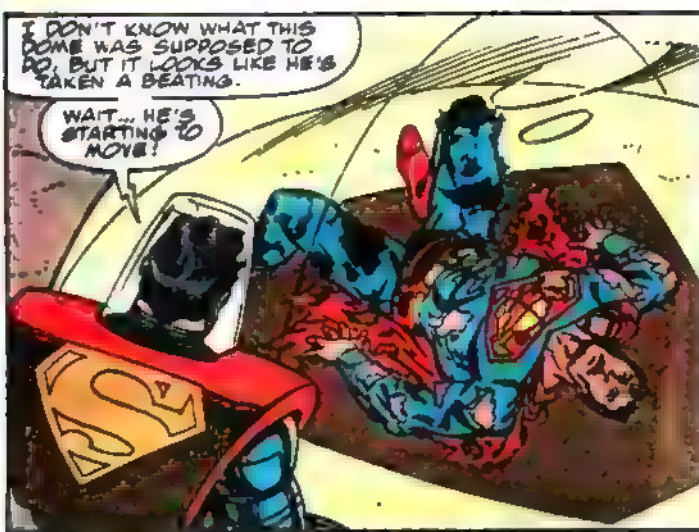
SUPERMAN TO GUARDIAN
"I HAVE THEM ON THE
RUN. I THINK KILLGRAVE'S
ABANDONING HIS FLUNKIES
--AND THEY'RE WASTING
A LOT OF AMMUNITION
ON ME... OVER.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S MORE INCREDIBLE--
THIS SUPERSONIC-- WHAT'D HE CALL IT?--
WHIZ WAGON THAT THE GUARDIAN
SHOWED UP IN...

...OR THE FACT THAT SUPER-
MAN IS FACING OFF AGAINST
THOSE CONS IN A TIN SUIT.

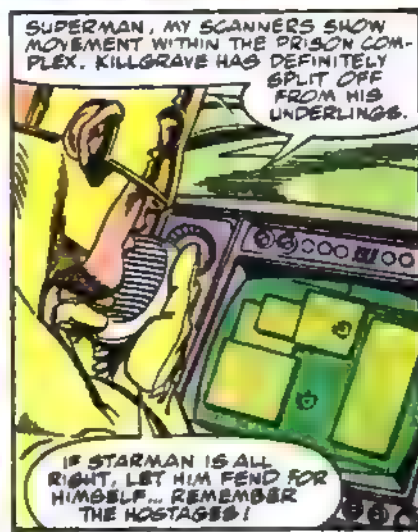
THIS IS ALL
HAPPENING A
LITTLE FAST
FOR ME.

ROGER,
SUPERMAN...
WE COPY. WHAT'S
STARMAN'S CON-
DITION?



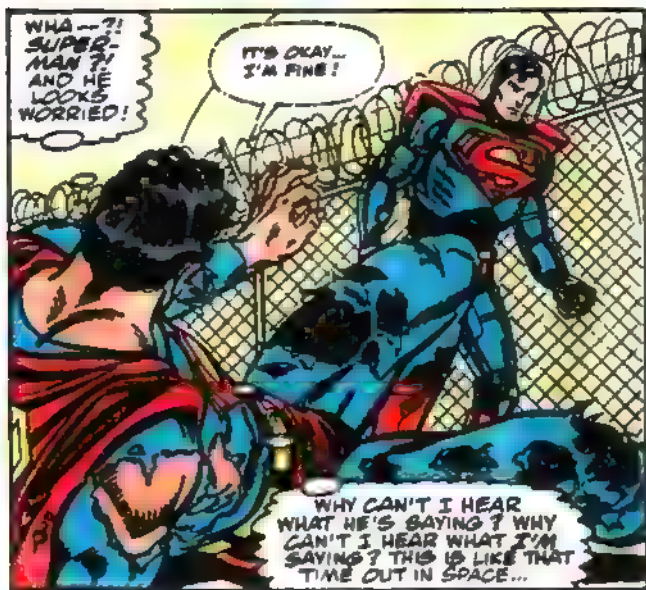
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS
DOGE WAS SUPPOSED TO
DO, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S
TAKEN A BEATING.

WAIT... HE'S
STARTING TO
MOVE!



SUPERMAN, MY SCANNERS SHOW
MOVEMENT WITHIN THE PRISON COM-
PLEX. KILLGRAVE HAS DEFINITELY
SPLIT OFF
FROM HIS
UNDERLINGS.

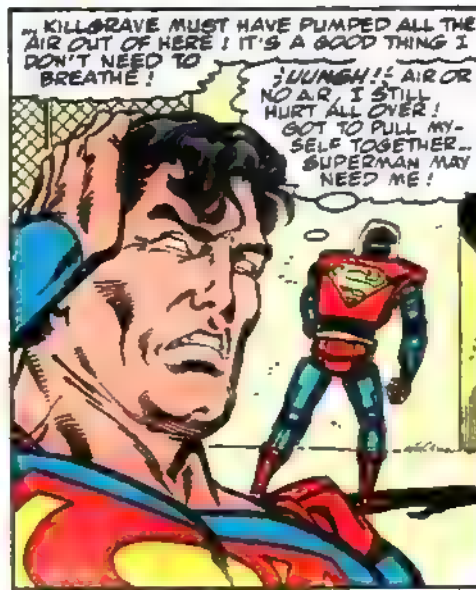
IF STARMAN IS ALL
RIGHT, LET HIM FEND FOR
HIMSELF... REMEMBER
THE HOSTAGES!



WHA--?!
SUPER-
MAN?!
AND HE
LOOKS
WORRIED!

IT'S OKAY...
I'M FINE!

WHY CAN'T I HEAR
WHAT HE'S SAYING? WHY
CAN'T I HEAR WHAT I'M
SAYING? THIS IS LIKE THAT
TIME OUT IN SPACE...



"KILLGRAVE MUST HAVE PUMPED ALL THE
AIR OUT OF HERE! IT'S A GOOD THING I
DON'T NEED TO
BREATHE!"

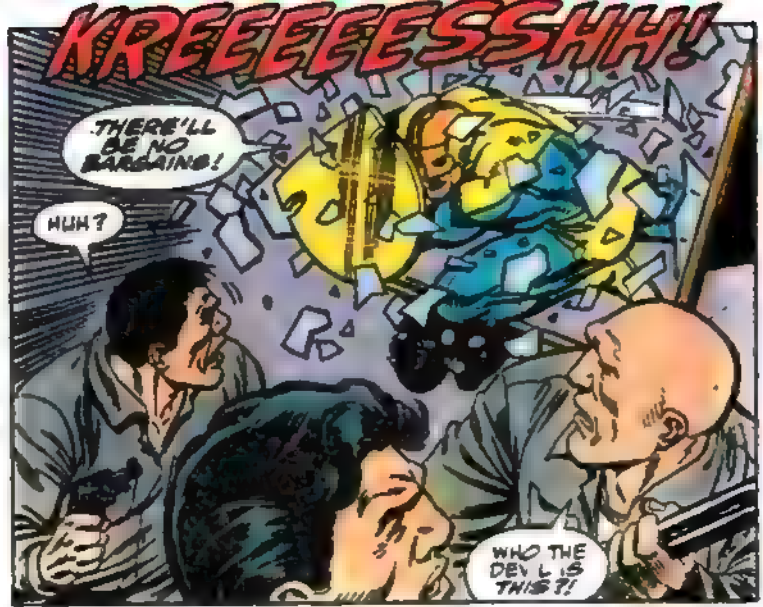
!!UUNGH!! AIR OR
NO AIR I STILL
HURT ALL OVER!
GOT TO PULL MY-
SELF TOGETHER...
SUPERMAN MAY
NEED ME!



WHAT'S GOIN' ON OUT THERE?!

WE GOT TROUBLE-- SUPER-TROUBLE!

BREAK OUT THE HOSTAGES! WE'RE GONNA NEED 'EM TO BARGAIN OUR WAY OUTTA THIS!



KREEEEESSHHH!

THERE'LL BE NO BARGAINS!

HUH?

WHO THE DEVIL IS THIS?!



THEY CALL ME GUARDIAN!

THE NAME FITS.

I GUARD SOCIETY--



--FROM THE LIKES OF YOU!

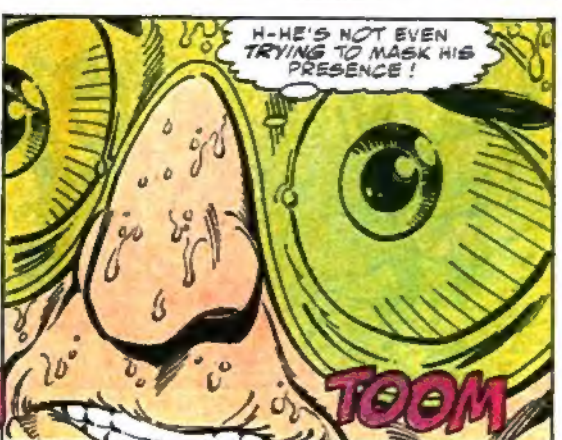


FREEZE, SOLD DOME! I GOT TWO LOADED BARRELS HERE, AND AT THIS RANGE, I CAN'T MISS!



NEITHER CAN I!

THAT'S FOUR DOWN...



KILLGRAVE--!

G-G-GET
BACK! O-OR, I
SWEAR, I'LL
BLOW YOU TO
KINGDOM
COME!

WAIT...

I-I
WARNED
YOU!

KILLGRAVE'S PLASTIC IS
TOUGHER THAN IT LOOKS! I
THOUGHT I'D NEVER
MELT OUT OF--!

KRA-KOOM

WHAT IN
THE--?!

OH, MY
GOD! I
DON'T
BELIEVE
IT--

UH-OH, I
DON'T LIKE THE
SOUND OF
THAT!

NOR DO I--
IT WAS LIKE A
BOMB GOING
OFF!

